

Title of Document:	IR(ME)R procedure (M) –To be observed in the case of non-medical imaging exposures
Directorate:	RADIOLOGY DIRECTORATE

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Individuals involved in developing / reviewing / amending this document: (titles only)	
RPS Chair	
WAHT RPA	
Quality Governance Lead Radiographer	
RPS	
Key staff responsibilities	Post:
It is the responsibility of the practitioner to justify all medico-legal exposures.	Practitioner
It is the responsibility of the referrer to make it clear on the request that the exposure is required for medico-legal reasons.	Referrer
To ensure the referral has been vetted as per below process before proceeding with exposure and to ensure dose is as low as reasonably possible	Operator

In-line with regulation 6 schedule 2 requirements within IRMER 2017, the purpose of this procedure is to identify appropriate arrangements when carrying out a non-medical imaging exposures.

The procedure will ensure the trust remain compliant with the IR(ME)R regulations and ensure staff are aware of the processes required for non-medical imaging and the responsibilities within IR(ME)R M.

This procedure will also determine what classifies as a non-medical exposure.

Non-medical imaging exposures include exposures performed for:

- Insurance or legal purposes without a medical indication.
- Employment related medical reports
- Emigration/Immigration
- Legal checks e.g. smuggling is an example of non-medical imaging exposures

Practice:

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It is assumed that persons are consenting to have an examination for a non-medical exposure if they attend the Imaging Department with an appropriate referral. Information on exposure is delivered as per IR(ME)R procedure I.

1. Referrals will only be accepted from **General Practitioners or Consultants**.
2. There must be sufficient information from the referrer as specified in IR(ME)R B to allow justification.

If the non-medical exposure is for a child or individual who may be or is pregnant, then further information may be required from the referrer before justification.

3. Justification must be completed by a **Consultant Radiologist**, where they will assess the appropriateness in line with the justification below:
 - The procedure should only be justified if it is not readily possible to use alternative techniques involving no or less exposure to ionising radiation.
 - Consideration must be given to the possibility of a reduction in views to achieve the information.
 - Checks must be made to determine if this medical exposure has already been performed during the routine clinical management of the patient, to avoid unnecessary repeat exposures.
4. Non-medical exposures should not be performed if the referral cannot be justified in line with the information above.
5. Once justified and authorised, non-medical exposures should be performed as per the requirements of medical exposures unless otherwise advised:
 - Taking care to keep doses as low as reasonably practicable, within the diagnostic reference level
 - Noting the exposure settings for the calculation of effective dose
 - Making a clinical evaluation of the outcome of the exposure, ensuring it is adequately exposed for formal report.